

We claim:

1. A submersible anode, comprising:

a support structure;

a conductive element comprising a matrix material and conductive particles supported within said matrix material; and

a conductor connected in electrical communication with said conductive element, said conductor being connectable to an electrical power supply.

2. The anode of claim 1, wherein:

said conductive element comprises a matrix of vinyl ester with graphite particles disposed within said matrix.

3. The anode of claim 1, wherein:

said support structure is attachable to a component of a marine vessel.

4. The anode of claim 3, wherein:

said component of said marine vessel is a transom of said marine vessel.

5. The anode of claim 1, wherein:

said support structure is a polymer.

6. The anode of claim 1, further comprising:

a sealing material disposed proximate said conductive element to prevent moisture from contacting said conductor.

7. A submersible anode, comprising:

- a nonconductive support structure;
- a conductive element comprising a polymer matrix material and conductive particles supported within said polymer matrix material, said nonconductive support structure being shaped to receive and support said conductive element;
- a conductor connected in electrical communication with said conductive element, said conductor being connectable to an electrical power supply;
- a sealing material disposed proximate said conductive element to prevent moisture from contacting said conductor.

8. The anode of claim 7, wherein:

- said conductive element comprises a matrix of vinyl ester with graphite particles disposed within said matrix.

9. The anode of claim 8, wherein:

- said support structure is attachable to a component of a marine vessel.

10. The anode of claim 9, wherein:

- said component of said marine vessel is a transom of said marine vessel.

11. The anode of claim 10, wherein:

- said support structure is a polymer.

12. A submersible marine anode, comprising:

- a polymer support structure;

a conductive element comprising a polymer matrix material and conductive particles supported within said polymer matrix material, said polymer support structure being shaped to receive and support said conductive element;

a conductor connected in electrical communication with said conductive  
5 element, said conductor being connectable to an electrical power supply;

a sealing material disposed proximate said conductive element to prevent moisture from contacting said conductor.

13. The anode of claim 12, wherein:

10 said conductive element comprises a matrix of vinyl ester with graphite particles disposed within said matrix.

14. The anode of claim 13, wherein:

said support structure is attachable to a component of a marine vessel.

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15. The anode of claim 14, wherein:

said component of said marine vessel is a transom of said marine vessel.